

लोगों को बहुत सुविधा होगी। इसलिए इस लाइन पर पैसेजर ट्रेन चलाई जावे। उसी तरह महाराष्ट्र एक्सप्रेस और दादर एक्सप्रेस जो कि नागपुर से है वह गोंदिया से शुरू करने वास्ते वहाँ के सभी लोगों की काफ़ी दिनों से मांग है। इसके वास्ते पहले भी मैंने कई बार कहा है। यह लोगों की मांग पूरी की जावे।

सरकार से मेरा निवेदन है कि उपरोक्त कामों पर रेल मंत्रालय द्वारा तुरन्त निगम्य करके पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्र के लोगों को राहत दिलाई जावे।

12.18 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER
in the Chair]

(ii) Need for more post-matric Scholarships for SC&ST students in Orissa.

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): Orissa has the second largest tribal population numbering about 53 lakhs living in five districts and some pockets of other districts. The percentage of literacy among the Scheduled Tribes and Castes in Orissa is very low and it is the worst in case of the tribals. In most of the tribes the literacy percentage is as low as 10 per cent and even less than that. The drop-outs of the tribes in Orissa at the primary level as per the latest information is 94.5 per cent. Few boys who manage to go to colleges or post matric classes cannot afford, due to poverty, to prosecute their studies as many of them cannot get lodging and boarding facilities. I, therefore, draw the attention of the Education Ministry to sanction more post-matric scholarships and more post-matric hostel buildings urgently to enable these tribal boys to avoid drop-outs and prosecute their studies in the few colleges started recently in these tribal areas in Orissa especially in Koraput district.

(iii) Need for Central Government's finance to Subarnarekha multi-purpose project.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balsore) Subarnarekha multipurpose project is a very long pending demand of the people of the State of Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa, in the absence of which, millions of people suffer every year due to flood, lack of irrigation facilities, lack of energy, etc. After several years of efforts, rupees eight hundred crores Subarnareka multipurpose project is in execution, with agreement between these three States on the initiative and mediation of the Union Government. The World Bank has agreed to pay 49 per cent of the total expenditure as loan and the rest 51 per cent will be borne by the three States in equal share. But all these three States are very much handicapped in financing the project due to constraint of resources. If this project is not executed and completed soon, it will hit hard many millions of people of these three States. So, the only solution to overcome this problem is that the Government of India come to their rescue.

I would, therefore, request the Union Government very earnestly to kindly agree to finance the project, so that the progress in execution of the project may not be hampered, as after completion of this project, the woes of the millions of people will be redressed.

(iv) Impounding passports of Indian Artists/Sportsman who visit South Africa Clandestinely.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): Several Indian musicians, artists, sportsmen and others have, from time to time, been visiting clandestinely the Republic of South Africa. The visit to South Africa by two Indian artists was reported just a few days ago...

(Interruptions)